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**PLACERVILLE MAN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSING STOLEN U.S. MAIL
BELONGING TO EL DORADO COUNTY RESIDENTS**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that ROBERT GENE SPENCER, 38, of Placerville, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Lawrence K. Karlton for possession of stolen U.S. Mail. Judge Karlton sentenced SPENCER to serve one year and one day in federal prison.

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service with the assistance of the City of Placerville Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who prosecuted the case, on October 17, 2006, SPENCER possessed U.S. Mail stolen from over ten different El Dorado county residents. SPENCER rifled the U.S. Mail looking for financial documents, account numbers, credit cards, and identification information that he could use to steal from U.S. Postal customers or to commit acts of fraud using the U.S. Postal customers' information. SPENCER was initially charged in a federal indictment filed on October 26, 2006, and he pled guilty on November 28, 2006. After the sentencing hearing today, SPENCER was remanded into federal custody to serve his federal prison sentence.

Following service of his prison term, SPENCER will be on federal supervised release for a term of 36 months.

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